

William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

MINUTES

City Council Business Meeting
Council Chambers, 38 Hawley Street, Binghamton, N.Y.
Wednesday March 4, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order by Council President Berg at 6:30pm.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council President Berg led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Jerry Motsavage, Joseph Mihalko, Teri Rennia, Chris Papastrat, John Matzo, Bill Berg, Lea Webb

Absent: None

Also in attendance: Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk; Tito Martinez, Deputy City Clerk; Kenneth J. Frank, Corporation Counsel

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Motion to approve the minutes from the Business Meeting held Wednesday February 18, 2015. Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Voice vote, none opposed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Special Business Meeting held on Monday February 23, 2015. Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Voice vote, none opposed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Finance Committee meeting held on Wednesday February 18, 2015 Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Voice vote, none opposed.

Motion to approve the minutes from the Municipal & Public Affairs Committee meeting held on Monday March 2, 2015. Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Voice vote, none opposed.

PUBLIC COMMENT/COMMUNICATIONS

John Solak, Tarik Abdelazim, Sean Massey, Cory Ray, Nick Ponterio¹, Tom Ellis, John Current², Lou Santoni³, John Mirabito⁴, Bruce Potter⁵, Linda Smith⁶, Julia Mahar⁷, Susan Northrup-Klumpp⁸, Renee DePrato⁹, Brian Lovesky¹⁰, Patricia Raube¹¹, Patricia Donohue¹², Daniel Schwartz¹³, Matthew Byrne¹⁴, Lindsey Webb¹⁵, Monica Silas¹⁶, Helinka Lenkiewicz¹⁷, Tracy Wagaman¹⁸, Earl Walker¹⁹, Matt Webb²⁰, Mary Webster²¹

¹Motion to suspend the rules to allow Nick Ponterio to speak as he lives outside the City Moved by Webb, seconded by Rennia

Voice vote, none opposed.



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

²October 23, 2014

Dear Mayor David,

This letter is to offer my support to the planned parking redevelopment for the former "Walk of Stars" area. This area of the former Washington Street has fallen in disrepair over the past several years and no longer serves the intended purpose for which it was built. While adding a few parking spaces will not solve the total parking issue in the city of Binghamton, redevelopment of this pace will surely benefit retailers and office pace occupiers in this segment of downtown. Hopefully this project can move forward in 2014.

Sincerely

John Current
Associate Real Estate Broker
Property Manager, Metro center
Pyramid Brokerage Company

I am writing to offer the Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce's enthusiastic support for the renovation plan presented by Mr. Thomas Ellis for the former Washington Street section, terminating in front of the 49 Court Street entrance at the Metro Center. If funded, this project renovates the former Ellis Brothers Furniture building at 162-164 Water Street into an approximate 12 spot parking area. The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce supports all businesses in downtown Binghamton and any improvements for parking and access to the businesses in downtown Binghamton would be highly welcomed. Please consider this project for approval and thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

Lou Santoni
President & CEO
The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce

⁴Dear Mayor David,

The Parking renovation plan proposed for the section of Washington St. in front of the Metro Center office building would be a significant improvement for the businesses located in that area and downtown Binghamton in general. Mirabito Holdings, Inc. has over 70 empoyees at our Metro Center office and any improvements for parking and access to our offices for them and our partners, vendors, customers and associates would be welcome. We hope this project can be approved and completed in a timely manner. Thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

John Mirabito
Chairman of the Board

³ Dear Mayor David,



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Mirabito Holdings, Inc.

⁵My name is Bruce Potter, I am the owner of Courtyard Gifts located at 163 Washington St. We have been open for 40 years in downtown, (2 owners) for the past 15 years at the present location. I have observed a steady decline in business over the past 8 years since the Metro Center became private parking. We no longer have any convenient parking offered to my customers. Surviving at this location is becoming a real challenge with no parking and no visiblity from Court St. When the Metro Center had retail, customers parked in the lot and shopped along Washington St. My store was part of the activity of customers shopping. I need your help in keeping my business alive in downtown Binghamton. We need to move forward, please consider the open parking on Washington St.

Bruce J. Potter

⁶My name is Linda Smith and I am owner of Sip of Seattle at 163 Washington St. This September our family business will have been open for 3 years. The complain I hear most is 2 fold. Customers complain that there is no parking and that any that is available is too far away. We have found that this problem impacts our business negatively on a regular basis. Because our business is located in the far corner (basically land locked) it is very difficult for people to recognize that we are here and open for business. Although once they find us they enjoy the out of the way experience. I have see nplans for adding additional parking spaces in the area in front of the Metro Center on the Court Street side. I think this would be a positive way to move toward addressing additional downtown parking and believe it would help Sip of Seattle to enjoy an actual street address of 163 Washington Street to allow customers ample parking to visit our establishment. Thank you for the opportunity to address this problem and help Binghamton rise to the level of expectations for our community.

Sincerely,

Linda Smith Owner/Sip of Seattle

⁷Dear Mr. Pelletier,

I respectfully request that my comments below be read into the record at the next City Council meeting.

Dear Council Members,

I am a Binghamton resident living in Councilman Mihalko's district. I am opposed to the parking lot both due to its prohibitive cost, and as a former Downtown resident, due to the effects on walkability in the neighborhood. Working with local businesses to develop the space for recreational use, live music, and green space will add quality of life and foot traffic (read-shoppers!) to the area.

Parking is available on the street and in several nearby lots and ramps. A drop-off point near Washington Street as well as more street parking designated for Handicap usage should accommodate residents with mobility struggles. I urge you to make the best decision for the City of Binghamton and all its residents.

Sincerely,

Julia Mahar

⁸Name: Susan Northrup-Klumpp Email: snorthrupklumpp@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://9HawthorneRd



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Comment: Please do not move forward with the parking spot project downtown. It would be so much more beneficial to have the area become a more artsy/social gathering area for downtown patrons! Why add ugly parking, remove street parking to end up with less convenience? Does not make sense. Do not push the amazing revitalization of our downtown backwards!

Registered Republican, Sue Northrup- Klumpp

⁹Name: Renee DePrato Email: renee@rjbullock.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://16SeymourStreet

Comment: PLEASE vote NO to borrowing \$350,000 to construct a parking area in front of the Metrocenter. This is not what downtown needs. We need more creative ideas to make downtown appealing to residents and students. We already have three parking ramps and many metered spots. Parking is not a problem. Even on Binghamton Senators game nights I have no problem finding parking downtown. I may need to walk a few blocks but that is normal in a city our size. We don't need more debt, we need you to take a stand.

¹⁰Name: Brian Lovesky

Email: chefbrian@outlook.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://43Courtst

Comment: I would like to express my opinion as the Chef De Cuisine of the Galaxy Brewing Company. I am all for convenient parking and do understand the current problems with the Metro space as it has been, but i feel as large as an amount of money as this is, it would be much better used on the three parking garages already in disrepair. I personally envision this space being used a green common space. A space that will make court street stand out and exemplify Binghamton's unique and talented residents and employees.

As a chef, i implore you to consider my advisement, exhaust fumes do not pair well with locally made craft beer and food, although vibrancy, flowers, trees, art, and celebration do.

Thank you for reading this.

¹¹City Clerk Jeremy Pelletier Dear Mr. Pelletier,

As a resident of Binghamton and one who spends a great deal of time downtown, I would like to register my objection to the planned addition of parking spaces in what was created to be a green space for the downtown area.

This idea was conceived without consideration of prior efforts to plan for downtown development, and seems desgined to benefit only a couple of business owners and the mayor himself rather than the community as a whole. That it was done hurriedly and without consultation of the traffic board, CAUD, and our own city council, and without obtaining the necessary approvals at the local and state level, shows a stunning lack of either understanding of how good government is supposed to work, or a complete and arrogant disregard for same.

Mr. David needs to ask himself if a \$34,000 personal parking space is really the legacy he wants to leave as mayor of Binghamton.

City Council, please vote no.



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Mr. Pelletier, please read my letter into the record of the City Council Meeting.

Sincerely,

Patricia J Raube 21 Lathrop Avenue Binghamton 13905

¹²For possible reading at City Council Meeting tonight.

Regarding the harassing of City Council Member Leah Webb, on a completely false accusation, It seems that this is a matter of diversion and needs to be stopped at once.! — What about Mr. Dhatta and his statement to Government Employees stating that they are expected to help on campaigns as part of their jobs?? And how about Mr Matzo, who is making these false accusations against Ms. Webb — He is on the C.A.U.D. Board and he also owns a Sign Company — And Senator Libous who has been indicted on very serious charges.

As a resident of Binghamton, I would ask that you get to work dealing with the real issues such as Jobs, Quality of Life issues, just to name a few, and stop this harassment of Ms Webb, who has proven to be among the most respected and trusted members on City Council.

Just remember this Motto" They who live in Glass Houses, should not throw stones!!"

Patricia Donohue 21 Exchange Street, Apt #4 Binghamton, NY 13901

¹³Name: Daniel Schwartz

Email: mr.daniel.schwartz@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://7colfaxAvenue

Comment: 350k to tear down one of the only open public spaces downtown? No thank you!

¹⁴Name: Matthew Byrne Email: mbyrne@stny.rr.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://14DivisionSt

Comment: do not move forward with any plans to add to the Metro Center parking. This is a waste of my taxes

¹⁵Name: Lindsey Webb

Email: lindseyreneewebb@me.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://580ChenangoSt

Comment: This parking lot is a ridiculous idea. Please stop it!

¹⁶Name: Monica Silas

Email: szilas55@hotmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://65Bennett



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Comment: As a property owner I can not believe that there is a plan to borrow money to build 10 parking spaces. Taxes in Binghamton are already ridiculously high. I spend a lot of time downtown and have yet to have trouble finding a place to park! I do not know of any taxpayers in the City that want to go into debt to park.

¹⁷Name: Helinka Lenkiewicz

Binghamton Street Address: http://107LaurelAvenue

Comment: This parking lot is absolutely unnecessary. There must be more practical needs for this money. A

community space seems a nicer solution to bring people together.

¹⁸Name: Tracy Wagaman Email: <u>tracy13905@gmail.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://191CraryAvenueBinghamotnNY13905

Comment: I do not believe that the proposed plan to replace the courtyard by the Metro Center is the best use of our money. We do need parking, but the cost per space reported does not make sense. We need to update the existing ramps and make public transportation more attractive to present as a modern, thriving city. We paid a lot of money for city planning, let's listen to the findings instead of keeping on this self destructive cycle.

¹⁹Name: Earl Walker Email: ewalk13@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://35ChestnutStreet

Comment: I understand that Ellis Brothers Furniture has been an anchor in downtown Binghamton for generations and would like to see this project go forward, however, as recommended by the traffic board this project will call for the elimination of diagonal parking on Court Street. This is a reckless plan that will REDUCE the net number of parking spaces downtown. This does not benefit Ellis Brothers or the residents of Binghamton. In these times of scarce resources, we cannot afford this prohibitively expensive project when we need the money for so many other vital services. Please consider other, more responsible uses for these funds.

²⁰Name: Matt Webb

Email: matthewbwebb@icloud.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://580Chenangost.Bingny

Comment: I'd much rather see better use of this space. Maybe move first Friday out of the street. This is great space for

such use

²¹Name: Mary Webster

Email: mwebster@lightlink.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://12EdwardsStreet

Comment: Please vote "No" on the MetroCenter parking lot. Instead, let's create a public space that will make our downtown beautiful. A public space that fosters music and art and good times and entertainment all year long will make our downtown come alive. And the space in front of the MetroCenter, so centrally located, is perfect for such a space. It can become the symbol of a new and vibrant and forward-thinking downtown Binghamton.

Point of order. Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk, noted for the record that Kathy Bousquet, Heather Harrington, Joseph Seidel, Robin Eddy-McLain, Henry Aery, and Mark Masker sent emails regarding their opposition to the Washington Street Mall Project. These individuals live outside of the City limits so there emails were not read into public record. The emails are available for review in the Binghamton City Clerk's Office.



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Point of order. Councilwoman Rennia inquired about another letter that was received by Council from a City resident.

Point of order. Council President Berg noted for the record that a letter was received on February 20, 2015 from Thomas Kulp. Since there is possible litigation associated with the letter it was decided that the letter will not be read into public record. The letter is available for review in the Binghamton City Clerk's Office. Council President Berg requested that the letter be referred to the Employees Committee for further review. Councilwoman Webb will set up an Employees Committee meeting at a later date and provide the date to the City Clerk for public notice.

Point of Order. Councilwoman Rennia noted for the record that she was not in favor of this decision.

FIRST READING LEGISLATION

Introductory Ordinance 15-10. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

An Ordinance increasing Restore NY Grant lines by \$1,167,048

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 15-10. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Introductory Ordinance 15-11. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

An Ordinance authorizing a budget amendment to pay for grant consulting services

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Mihalko.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 15-11. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Motion to suspend the rules to consider Introductory R15-24 before Introductory O15-12

Moved by Webb, seconded by Rennia.

Voice vote, none opposed.

Introductory Resolution 15-24. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Wladis Law Firm for grant consulting services Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-11. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Introductory Ordinance 15-12. Considered in Planning & Community Development, Chair: Webb

An Ordinance authorizing the sale of 111 Walnut Street to Susan Taylor for \$200

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Webb, seconded by Rennia.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Ordinance 15-12. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Introductory Resolution 15-11. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with ACHIEVE for use of FY 40 CDBG funds in an amount not to exceed \$10,626

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Rennia.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-12. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Introductory Resolution 15-12. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Actions for Older Persons for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$19,998.00

1. Councilman Motsavage requested permission to abstain from voting on this legislation, because his wife sits on the board. Motion to allow Councilman Motsavage to abstain from voting on Introductory Resolution 15-12. Moved by Papastrat, seconded by Matzo.

Voice vote, none opposed.

2. Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-13. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Abstain: Motsavage

Introductory Resolution 15-13. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with BC Urban League for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in amount not to exceed \$15,000

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-14. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Introductory Resolution 15-14. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Boys & Girls Clubs of Binghamton for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$16,000

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-15. (Vote 5-2)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: Rennia, Webb

Introductory Resolution 15-15. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Cornell Cooperative Extension of BC for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$18,681

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-16. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

Introductory Resolution 15-16. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Mothers & Babies Perinatal Network for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$20,000

1. Councilwoman Rennia requested permission to abstain from voting on this legislation, because her relative is the executive director. Motion to allow Councilwoman Rennia to abstain from voting on Introductory Resolution 15-16.

Moved by Webb, seconded by Motsavage.

Voice vote, none opposed.

2. Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-17. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None Abstain: Rennia

Introductory Resolution 15-17. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with United Way of Broome County for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$8,000

 Councilman Motsavage requested permission to abstain from voting on this legislation. Motion to allow Councilman Motsavage to abstain from voting on Introductory Resolution 15-17. Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Voice vote, none opposed.

2. Motion to approve legislation

Moved by Rennia, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-18. (Vote 6-0-1)

Ayes: Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Abstain: Motsavage

Suspend the rules. Councilwoman Webb requested to suspend the rules in order to hold Introductory Resolutions 15-18, 15-19, 15-20 and 15-21.

Moved by Webb, seconded by Rennia.

Items held.

Introductory Resolution 15-18. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with YWCA for use of FY 40 ESG funding in an amount not to exceed \$34,205.25

Items held.

Introductory Resolution 15-19. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Catholic Charities for use of FY 40 ESG funding in an amount not to exceed \$42,106.25

Items held.

Introductory Resolution 15-20. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Family Enrichment Network for use of FY 40 ESG funding in an amount not to exceed \$47,000.25

Items held.

Introductory Resolution 15-21. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Volunteers of America for use of FY 40 ESG funding in an amount not to exceed \$11,712.25

Items held.

Introductory Resolution 15-22. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Catholic Charities RSVP for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$5,847.50

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-19. (Vote 6-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: Rennia

Introductory Resolution 15-23. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the mayor to enter into an agreement with Center for Employment Opportunities for use of FY 40 CDBG funding in an amount not to exceed \$5,847.50

Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-20. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

Introductory Resolution 15-25. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing a supplemental agreement number 2 with Griffiths Engineering to provide design services for flood mitigation improvements at the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant (BJCJSTP) Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Webb.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-21. (Vote 5-2)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: Rennia, Webb

Introductory Resolution 15-26. Considered in Finance, Chair: Motsavage

A Resolution authorizing the Mayor to enter into an agreement with RAM-TECH Engineers to provide engineering services for the Terminal Pumping Station at the Binghamton-Johnson City Joint Sewage Treatment Plant

- 1. Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Matzo.
- 2. Motion to amend the legislation to change the figure amount from \$383,643 to \$155,800 and amend the budget line from HX8150.500100.J1FF to HX8150.500100.J1NN.

Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Mihalko.



William Berg, City Council President Jeremy Pelletier, City Clerk

- 3. Motion to approve legislation as amended.
- 4. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Mihalko.

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-22. (Vote 6-1)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: Rennia

Introductory Resolution 15-27. Considered in Municipal & Public Affairs, Chair: Rennia

A Resolution authorizing free parking for the 2015 Greater Binghamton Bridge Run Half Marathon & 5K Motion to approve legislation. Moved by Rennia, seconded by .

Motion carried. Legislation adopted as Permanent Resolution 15-23. (Vote 7-0)

Ayes: Motsavage, Mihalko, Rennia, Webb, Papastrat, Matzo, Berg

Nays: None

COMMUNICATIONS FROM COUNCIL

Webb, Mihalko, Rennia, Matzo, Papastrat, Motsavage, Berg

ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn at 8:29pm. Moved by Motsavage, seconded by Matzo. **Voice vote, none opposed.**





Pyramid Brokerage Company
Binghamton Market
84 Court Street
Suite 300
Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 754-5990 • Fax: (607) 754-7826

October 23, 2014

The Honorable Richard C. David, Mayor City of Binghamton 38 Hawley Street Fourth Floor Binghamton, New York 13901

Dear Mayor David,

This letter is to offer my support to the planned parking redevelopment for the former "Walk of Stars" area.

This area of the former Washington Street has fallen in disrepair during the past several years and no longer serves the intended purpose for which it was built.

While adding a few parking spaces will not solve the total parking issue in the City of Binghamton, redevelopment of this space will surely benefit retailers and office space occupiers in this segment of downtown.

Hopefully this project can move forward in 2014.

Sincerely,

John B. Current

John P Current Associate Real Estate Broker Property Manager, Metrocenter Pyramid Brokerage Company



July 9, 2014



Mayor Richard C. David 38 Hawley St., 4th Floor Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Mayor David,

I am writing to offer The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce's enthusiastic support for the renovation plan presented by Mr. Thomas Ellis for the former Washington Street section, terminating in front of the 49 Court Street entrance to the MetroCenter.

If funded, this project renovates the former Ellis Brothers Furniture building at 162-164 Water Street into an approximate 12 spot parking area.

The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce supports all businesses in downtown Binghamton and any improvements for parking and access to the businesses in downtown Binghamton would be highly welcomed.

Please consider this project for approval and thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

Lou Santoni President & CEO

The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Bob Murphy 7/14/14



Bod MURPHY "18/14

Telephone: 607.352.2800
Fax: 607.584.5130
Email: info@mirabito.com
Website: www.mirabito.com

The Metrocenter • 49 Court Street • P.O. Box 5306 • Binghamton • New York • 13902

July 2, 2014

Mayor Richard C. David 38 Hawley St., 4th Floor Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Mayor David,

The parking renovation plan proposed for the section of Washington St. in front of the Metrocenter office building would be a significant improvement for the businesses located in that area and downtown Binghamton in general.

Mirabito Holdings, Inc. has over 70 employees at our Metrocenter office and any improvements for parking and access to our offices for them and our partners, vendors, customers and associates would be welcome. We hope this project can be approved and completed in a timely manner.

Thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

John Mirabito

Chairman of the Board Mirabito Holdings, Inc.

cc: Tom Ellis

RECEIVE D



163 Washington Street Binghamton, New York 13901 607-723-4171

June 26, 2014

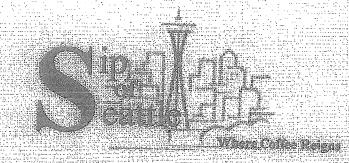
Mayor Richard David 38 Hawley St. Binghamion, NY 13901

My name is Bruce Potter, I am the owner of Courtyard Citts located at 163 Washington St. We have been open for 40 years in downgown. (2 owners) for the past 15 years at the present location. I have observed a steady decline in business over the past 8 years since the Wetro Cemer became private parking. We no longer have any convenient parking offered to my customers. Surviving at this location is becoming a real challenge with no parking and no visibility from Court St. When the Metro Center had retail, customers parked in the lot and shopped along Washington St. My store was part of the activity of customers shopping.

I need you help in keeping my business alive in downtown Binghamton. We need to move forward, please consider the open parking on Washington St

Smooraly

Idental I Barra



June 6, 2014

Mayor Riesard C. David 28 Hawley Siles, 4" Floor Binghamley, NY 13901

RE: Adelijonal Washington Sinest Parking

Why name is tanda Smith and I am owner of Sin or Seaffe at 163 Washington St.
This September our ramin pushess will have been open downtown for a years. The
company i hear the most is 2 felo. Customers complain that there is no sawing and that
any that is available as too far away. We have round that the problem limpacts our
cusiness negatively on a regular basis, because our business is located in the far corner
(basically land-locked) in its very enforth to poeme to recognize that we are here and
open to touriess. Although once they first us they enjoy the out-of-meskay.

I tave seen plans for adding addingral barking spaces in the creatin doct of me their seating countries of the creating successing the creating of the countries of the countrie

Thank you for the opportunity to address his problem and help Birdhamton rise to the lovel of expostations for our community.

Slacesely

Linda W.Smith Owner / Sip of Seattle

Linda Smith Owner

163 Washington Street - Binghamton, New York 13901

(607) 624-0588

From: Sent:

Julia Mahar [julia.mahar@gmail.com] Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:59 AM

To: Subject: Pelletier, Jeremy Proposed Parking Lot

Dear Mr. Pelletier,

I respectfully request that my comments below be read into the record at the next City Council meeting.

Dear Council Members,

I am a Binghamton resident living in Councilman Mihalko's district. I am opposed to the parking lot both due to its prohibitive cost, and as a former Downtown resident, due to the effects on walkability in the neighborhood.

Working with local businesses to develop the space for recreational use, live music, and green space will add quality of life and foot traffic (read- shoppers!) to the area. Parking is available on the street and in several nearby lots and ramps. A drop-off point near Washington Street as well as more street parking designated for Handicap usage should accommodate residents with mobility struggles.

I urge you to make the best decision for the City of Binghamton and all its residents. Sincerely,

Julia Mahar

From:

Susan Northrup-Klumpp [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 10:13 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Susan Northrup-Klumpp Email: <u>snorthrupklumpp@gmail.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://9HawthorneRd

Comment: Please do not move forward with the parking spot project downtown. It would be so much more beneficial to have the area become a more artsy/social gathering area for downtown patrons! Why add ugly parking, remove street parking to end up with less convenience? Does not make sense. Do not push the amazing revitalization of our downtown backwards!

Registered Republican, Sue Northrup- Klumpp

Time: 03/04/2015 at 10:13 am IP Address: 108.183.44.92

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Renee DePrato [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 8:13 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Renee DePrato

Email: renee@rjbullock.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://16SeymourStreet

Comment: PLEASE vote NO to borrowing \$350,000 to construct a parking area in front of the Metrocenter. This is not what downtown needs. We need more creative ideas to make downtown appealing to residents and students. We already have three parking ramps and many metered spots. Parking is not a problem. Even on Binghamton Senators game nights I have no problem finding parking downtown. I may need to walk a few blocks but that is normal in a city our size. We don't need more debt, we need you to take a stand.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 8:12 am IP Address: 23.226.88.6

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Brian Lovesky [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:16 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Brian Lovesky

Email: chefbrian@outlook.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://43Courtst

Comment: I would like to express my opinion as the Chef De Cuisine of the Galaxy Brewing I am all for convenient parking and do understand the current problems with the Metro space as it has been, but i feel as large as an amount of money as this is, it would be much better used on the three parking garages already in disrepair.

I personally envision this space being used a green common space. A space that will make court street stand out and exemplify Binghamton's unique and talented residents and employees.

As a chef, i implore you to consider my advisement, exhaust fumes do not pair well with locally made craft beer and food, although vibrancy, flowers, trees, art, and celebration do.

Thank you for reading this.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:15 pm IP Address: 108.183.42.43

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Patricia J. Raube [magdalene6127@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:48 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy

Subject:

Plan for Parking at Metro Center Courtyard, Downtown Binghamton

City Clerk Jeremy Pelletier Dear Mr. Pelletier,

As a resident of Binghamton and one who spends a great deal of time downtown, I would like to register my objection to the planned addition of parking spaces in what was created to be a green space for the downtown area.

This idea was conceived without consideration of prior efforts to plan for downtown development, and seems desgined to benefit only a couple of business owners and the mayor himself rather than the community as a whole. That it was done hurriedly and without consultation of the traffic board, CAUD, and our own city council, and without obtaining the necessary approvals at the local and state level, shows a stunning lack of either understanding of how good government is supposed to work, or a complete and arrogant disregard for same.

Mr. David needs to ask himself if a \$34,000 personal parking space is really the legacy he wants to leave as mayor of Binghamton.

City Council, please vote no.

Mr. Pelletier, please read my letter into the record of the City Council Meeting.

Sincerely,

Patricia J Raube 21 Lathrop Avenue Binghamton 13905

+++

Rev. Pat Raube

Come, come, whoever you are.
Wanderer, worshiper,
lover of leaving.
It doesn't matter.
Ours is not a caravan of despair.
Come, even if you have broken your vows a thousand times.
Come, yet again, come, come.

~ Rumi

From:

Patricia Donohue [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 9:17 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Patricia Donohue

Email: radiobrown@verizon.net

Binghamton Street Address: http://21ExchangeSt.,apt#4E

Comment: I respectfully request that you vote a big resounding NO on the matter of a wasteful, unnecessary Parking Lot at Metro Center - and instead activate this Public Space as it was envisioned in Blueprint Binghamton 's 2014 Comprehensive Plan, with art, music,

energy and celebration.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 9:17 am IP Address: 108.55.129.95

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Daniel Schwartz [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:57 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Daniel Schwartz

Email: mr.daniel.schwartz@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://7colfaxAvenue

Comment: 350k to tear down one of the only open public spaces downtown? No thank you!

Time: 03/04/2015 at 11:57 am IP Address: 74.69.143.253

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Matthew Byrne [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:27 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Matthew Byrne

Email: mbyrne@stny.rr.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://14DivisionSt

Comment: do not move forward with any plans to add to the Metro Center parking. This is a

waste of my taxes

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:26 pm IP Address: 107.107.59.225

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Lindsey Webb [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 8:55 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Lindsey Webb

Email: lindseyreneewebb@me.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://580ChenangoSt

Comment: This parking lot is a ridiculous idea. Please stop it!

Time: 02/27/2015 at 8:54 pm IP Address: 96.243.82.84

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From: Sent: Monica Silas [donotreply@wordpress.com] Wednesday, March 04, 2015 7:11 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Monica Silas

Email: szilas55@hotmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://65Bennett

Comment: As a property owner I can not believe that there is a plan to borrow money to build 10 parking spaces. Taxes in Binghamton are already ridiculously high. I spend a lot of time downtown and have yet to have trouble finding a place to park! I do not know of any taxpayers in the City that want to go into debt to park.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 7:10 am

IP Address: 67.251.116.63

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Helinka Lenkiewicz [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 10:00 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Helinka Lenkiewicz

Binghamton Street Address: http://107LaurelAvenue

Comment: This parking lot is absolutely unnecessary. There must be more practical needs for

this money. A community space seems a nicer solution to bring people together.

Time: 02/27/2015 at 9:59 pm IP Address: 198.255.136.50

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Tracy Wagaman [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 2:54 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Tracy Wagaman

Email: tracy13905@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://191CraryAvenueBinghamotnNY13905

Comment: I do not believe that the proposed plan to replace the courtyard by the Metro Center is the best use of our money. We do need parking, but the cost per space reported does not make sense. We need to update the existing ramps and make public transportation more attractive to present as a modern, thriving city. We paid a lot of money for city planning, let's listen to the findings instead of keeping on this self destructive cycle.

Time: 02/27/2015 at 2:53 pm IP Address: 216.162.18.29

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Earl Walker [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 01, 2015 4:36 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Earl Walker

Email: ewalk13@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://35ChestnutStreet

Comment: I understand that Ellis Brothers Furniture has been an anchor in downtown Binghamton for generations and would like to see this project go forward, however, as recommended by the traffic board this project will call for the elimination of diagonal parking on Court Street. This is a reckless plan that will REDUCE the net number of parking spaces downtown. This does not benefit Ellis Brothers or the residents of Binghamton. In these times of scarce resources, we cannot afford this prohibitively expensive project when we need the money for so many other vital services. Please consider other, more responsible uses for these funds.

Time: 03/01/2015 at 4:35 pm IP Address: 71.188.232.177

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Matt Webb [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent: To: Saturday, February 28, 2015 3:30 PM
Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Matt Webb

Email: matthewbwebb@icloud.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://580Chenangost.Bingny

Comment: I'd much rather see better use of this space. Maybe move first Friday out of the

street. This is great space for such use

Time: 02/28/2015 at 3:29 pm IP Address: 96.243.82.84

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From: Sent:

Mary Webster [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sunday, March 01, 2015 9:51 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Mary Webster

Email: mwebster@lightlink.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://12EdwardsStreet

Comment: Please vote "No" on the MetroCenter parking lot. Instead, let's create a public space that will make our downtown beautiful. A public space that fosters music and art and good times and entertainment all year long will make our downtown come alive. And the space in front of the MetroCenter, so centrally located, is perfect for such a space. It can become the symbol of a new and vibrant and forward-thinking downtown Binghamton.

Time: 03/01/2015 at 9:51 am IP Address: 67.252.82.31

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by a verified WordPress.com user.

From:

Kathy Bousquet [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 9:35 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Kathy Bousquet

Email: kbousquet@stny.rr.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://604southstreet

Comment: This is just unfair, we pay enough taxes, for nothing!

Time: 03/04/2015 at 9:34 am IP Address: 74.74.89.30

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Endicoff

From:

Heather Harrington [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:11 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Heather Harrington

Binghamton Street Address: http://6WatsonAve

Comment: I oppose such things.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:10 pm IP Address: 67.241.245.39

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Village of Port Dickinson

From:

Joseph Seidel [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Monday, March 02, 2015 3:26 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy, Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Joseph Seidel

Email: <u>Josephpseidel@yahoo.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://3311HanceRd.Binghamton,NY13901

Comment: As a young boy that grew up to join the United States Army and returned home to the city that I love, I can wholeheartedly say I absolutely love and support Mayor David's economic vision for the development of Binghamton.

However, destroying the closest thing this town has to a commons is a horrific idea. I'm not really sure how anyone thinks this is beneficial to the community in any way shape or form. Forget the fact that it's costing around \$500,000 to complete the project and there are already 3 public parking garages all within walking distance that need major repairs, but take into consideration this is the heart of the downtown area and the focal point of our community.

There is nothing inviting about a city that is in dire need of revamping and revitalization that puts its focus on 10 parking spaces in a place that was once considered historic with the "Walk of Fame".

It is so frustrating to see so many good things the mayor is doing for the city be nullified by such an illogical irrational decision.

I truly hope this does not happen. It will only create chaos and take away from the vibrancy the city has been longing for for many decades now. We are so close to turning this city around and creating an inviting downtown atmosphere, please do not ruin it for the citizens that care so deeply about an uprising economy.

Just go park somewhere else and walk to your destination like every other inviting economically developed city in the nation.

~Joseph Seidel

Time: 03/02/2015 at 3:25 pm IP Address: 66.194.51.34

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Town of Binghandon

From:

Robin Eddy-McLain [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 01, 2015 9:53 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Robin Eddy-McLain Email: <u>felixxkatt@yahoo.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://1170dellAvenue,Endicott,NY13760

Comment: What would happen to the JulyFest artists alley which is RIGHT WHERE THIS NEW PARKING LOT would go? At best the parking lot would be used for that whole four day stretch, meaning it would be useless to the mayor as a private parking space. How are you supposed to safely turn around in such a TINY space at the end of that courtyard? I have had to back into the metro center courtyard to load and unload before-- it is not a big space, and would not be any bigger full of cars.

HOW CAN YOU JUSTIFY REDUCING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SPACES FOR A DESIGN THAT IS EXPENSIVE, DANGEROUS, AND IMPRACTICAL? It is the worst possible location for such a selfish project! the courtyard hosts a number of small businesses, and is a main pedestrian area in the city!

Time: 03/01/2015 at 9:52 am IP Address: 23.226.94.138

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Village of Endicott

From: Sent: Henry Aery [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sunday, March 01, 2015 10:07 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Henry Aery

Email: haery1@binghamton.edu

Binghamton Street Address: http://BinghamtonUniversityCampus

Comment: I think this parking lot is a REALLY REALLY bad idea

Time: 03/01/2015 at 10:06 pm IP Address: 149.125.49.230

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Town of Vesta

From:

mark masker [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 1:44 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: mark masker

Email: colortechtatoo@yahoo.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://1139upperfrontstreetbinghamtonny13905

Comment: i can see no reason for this as there are plenty of parking areas downtown already

it would be better if the area was used as a garden rather than a parking lot

Time: 02/27/2015 at 1:44 pm IP Address: 198.255.134.232

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Town of therago Chenango





Pyramid Brokerage Company
Binghamton Market
84 Court Street
Suite 300
Binghamton, NY 13901
(607) 754-5990 • Fax: (607) 754-7826

October 23, 2014

The Honorable Richard C. David, Mayor City of Binghamton 38 Hawley Street Fourth Floor Binghamton, New York 13901

Dear Mayor David,

This letter is to offer my support to the planned parking redevelopment for the former "Walk of Stars" area.

This area of the former Washington Street has fallen in disrepair during the past several years and no longer serves the intended purpose for which it was built.

While adding a few parking spaces will not solve the total parking issue in the City of Binghamton, redevelopment of this space will surely benefit retailers and office space occupiers in this segment of downtown.

Hopefully this project can move forward in 2014.

Sincerely,

John B. Current

John P Current Associate Real Estate Broker Property Manager, Metrocenter Pyramid Brokerage Company



July 9, 2014



Mayor Richard C. David 38 Hawley St., 4th Floor Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Mayor David,

I am writing to offer The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce's enthusiastic support for the renovation plan presented by Mr. Thomas Ellis for the former Washington Street section, terminating in front of the 49 Court Street entrance to the MetroCenter.

If funded, this project renovates the former Ellis Brothers Furniture building at 162-164 Water Street into an approximate 12 spot parking area.

The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce supports all businesses in downtown Binghamton and any improvements for parking and access to the businesses in downtown Binghamton would be highly welcomed.

Please consider this project for approval and thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

Lou Santoni President & CEO

The Greater Binghamton Chamber of Commerce

Cc: Bob Murphy 7/14/14



Bod Murphy "18/14

Telephone: 607.352.2800
Fax: 607.584.5130
Email: info@mirabito.com
Website: www.mirabito.com

The Metrocenter • 49 Court Street • P.O. Box 5306 • Binghamton • New York • 13902

July 2, 2014

Mayor Richard C. David 38 Hawley St., 4th Floor Binghamton, NY 13901

Dear Mayor David,

The parking renovation plan proposed for the section of Washington St. in front of the Metrocenter office building would be a significant improvement for the businesses located in that area and downtown Binghamton in general.

Mirabito Holdings, Inc. has over 70 employees at our Metrocenter office and any improvements for parking and access to our offices for them and our partners, vendors, customers and associates would be welcome. We hope this project can be approved and completed in a timely manner.

Thank you for all you are doing for the City of Binghamton.

Sincerely,

John Mirabito

Chairman of the Board Mirabito Holdings, Inc.

cc: Tom Ellis

RECEIVE D



163 Washington Street Binghamton, New York 13901 607-723-4171

June 26, 2014

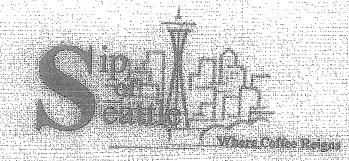
Mayor Richard David 38 Hawley St. Binghamion, NY 13901

My name is Bruce Potter, I am the owner of Courtyard Citts located at 163 Washington St. We have been open for 40 years in downgown. (2 owners) for the past 15 years at the present location. I have observed a steady decline in business over the past 8 years since the Wetro Cemer became private parking. We no longer have any convenient parking offered to my customers. Surviving at this location is becoming a real challenge with no parking and no visibility from Court St. When the Metro Center had retail, customers parked in the lot and shopped along Washington St. My store was part of the activity of customers shopping.

I need you help in keeping my business alive in downtown Binghamton. We need to move forward, please consider the open parking on Washington St

Smooraly

Idental I Barra



June 6, 2014

Mayar Richard C. Dovid 38 Jawley Street 4" Floor Birghamton, NY 13901

RE: Adelijonal Washington Sinest Parking

Why name is tander Smith and I am owner of Sip or Seattle at 163 Washington St.
This September our ramin plushess will have been open downtown for a very. The
company if hear the most as 2 feld, Gustomers complain that there is no serving and that
any that is available as too far away. We have round that this problem impacts our
business negatively on a regular basis, because our dustness is located in the far corner
basically land-locked in its very entire it to poeme to recognize that we are hore and
coon to quarries. Although once they find us they enjoy the out of the way

superiors.

I have seen plans for sidding additional banking spaces in the creatin not of me their occurrence in the creatin not of me their occurrence in the creating of the converge in the converge in

Thank you for the opportunity to address his problem and help Birdhamton rise to the lovel of expostations for our community.

Sincerely,

Linda W.Smith Owner / Sip of Seattle

Linda Smith Owner

163 Washington Street - Binghamton, New York 13901

(407) 624-0588

From: Sent:

Julia Mahar [julia.mahar@gmail.com] Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:59 AM

To: Subject: Pelletier, Jeremy Proposed Parking Lot

Dear Mr. Pelletier,

I respectfully request that my comments below be read into the record at the next City Council meeting.

Dear Council Members,

I am a Binghamton resident living in Councilman Mihalko's district. I am opposed to the parking lot both due to its prohibitive cost, and as a former Downtown resident, due to the effects on walkability in the neighborhood.

Working with local businesses to develop the space for recreational use, live music, and green space will add quality of life and foot traffic (read- shoppers!) to the area. Parking is available on the street and in several nearby lots and ramps. A drop-off point near Washington Street as well as more street parking designated for Handicap usage should accommodate residents with mobility struggles.

I urge you to make the best decision for the City of Binghamton and all its residents. Sincerely,

Julia Mahar

From:

Susan Northrup-Klumpp [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 10:13 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Susan Northrup-Klumpp Email: <u>snorthrupklumpp@gmail.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://9HawthorneRd

Comment: Please do not move forward with the parking spot project downtown. It would be so much more beneficial to have the area become a more artsy/social gathering area for downtown patrons! Why add ugly parking, remove street parking to end up with less convenience? Does not make sense. Do not push the amazing revitalization of our downtown backwards!

Registered Republican, Sue Northrup- Klumpp

Time: 03/04/2015 at 10:13 am IP Address: 108.183.44.92

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Renee DePrato [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 8:13 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Renee DePrato

Email: renee@rjbullock.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://16SeymourStreet

Comment: PLEASE vote NO to borrowing \$350,000 to construct a parking area in front of the Metrocenter. This is not what downtown needs. We need more creative ideas to make downtown appealing to residents and students. We already have three parking ramps and many metered spots. Parking is not a problem. Even on Binghamton Senators game nights I have no problem finding parking downtown. I may need to walk a few blocks but that is normal in a city our size. We don't need more debt, we need you to take a stand.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 8:12 am IP Address: 23.226.88.6

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From: Sent:

Brian Lovesky [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:16 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Brian Lovesky

Email: chefbrian@outlook.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://43Courtst

Comment: I would like to express my opinion as the Chef De Cuisine of the Galaxy Brewing I am all for convenient parking and do understand the current problems with the Metro space as it has been, but i feel as large as an amount of money as this is, it would be much better used on the three parking garages already in disrepair.

I personally envision this space being used a green common space. A space that will make court street stand out and exemplify Binghamton's unique and talented residents and employees.

As a chef, i implore you to consider my advisement, exhaust fumes do not pair well with locally made craft beer and food, although vibrancy, flowers, trees, art, and celebration do.

Thank you for reading this.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:15 pm IP Address: 108.183.42.43

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Patricia J. Raube [magdalene6127@yahoo.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:48 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy

Subject:

Plan for Parking at Metro Center Courtyard, Downtown Binghamton

City Clerk Jeremy Pelletier Dear Mr. Pelletier,

As a resident of Binghamton and one who spends a great deal of time downtown, I would like to register my objection to the planned addition of parking spaces in what was created to be a green space for the downtown area.

This idea was conceived without consideration of prior efforts to plan for downtown development, and seems desgined to benefit only a couple of business owners and the mayor himself rather than the community as a whole. That it was done hurriedly and without consultation of the traffic board, CAUD, and our own city council, and without obtaining the necessary approvals at the local and state level, shows a stunning lack of either understanding of how good government is supposed to work, or a complete and arrogant disregard for same.

Mr. David needs to ask himself if a \$34,000 personal parking space is really the legacy he wants to leave as mayor of Binghamton.

City Council, please vote no.

Mr. Pelletier, please read my letter into the record of the City Council Meeting.

Sincerely,

Patricia J Raube 21 Lathrop Avenue Binghamton 13905

+++

Rev. Pat Raube

Come, come, whoever you are.
Wanderer, worshiper,
lover of leaving.
It doesn't matter.
Ours is not a caravan of despair.
Come, even if you have broken your vows a thousand times.
Come, yet again, come, come.

~ Rumi

From:

Patricia Donohue [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 9:17 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Patricia Donohue

Email: radiobrown@verizon.net

Binghamton Street Address: http://21ExchangeSt.,apt#4E

Comment: I respectfully request that you vote a big resounding NO on the matter of a wasteful, unnecessary Parking Lot at Metro Center - and instead activate this Public Space as it was envisioned in Blueprint Binghamton 's 2014 Comprehensive Plan, with art, music,

energy and celebration.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 9:17 am IP Address: 108.55.129.95

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Daniel Schwartz [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 11:57 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Daniel Schwartz

Email: mr.daniel.schwartz@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://7colfaxAvenue

Comment: 350k to tear down one of the only open public spaces downtown? No thank you!

Time: 03/04/2015 at 11:57 am IP Address: 74.69.143.253

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Matthew Byrne [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:27 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Matthew Byrne

Email: mbyrne@stny.rr.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://14DivisionSt

Comment: do not move forward with any plans to add to the Metro Center parking. This is a

waste of my taxes

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:26 pm IP Address: 107.107.59.225

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Lindsey Webb [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 8:55 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Lindsey Webb

Email: <u>lindseyreneewebb@me.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://580ChenangoSt

Comment: This parking lot is a ridiculous idea. Please stop it!

Time: 02/27/2015 at 8:54 pm IP Address: 96.243.82.84

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From: Sent: Monica Silas [donotreply@wordpress.com] Wednesday, March 04, 2015 7:11 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Monica Silas

Email: szilas55@hotmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://65Bennett

Comment: As a property owner I can not believe that there is a plan to borrow money to build 10 parking spaces. Taxes in Binghamton are already ridiculously high. I spend a lot of time downtown and have yet to have trouble finding a place to park! I do not know of any taxpayers in the City that want to go into debt to park.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 7:10 am

IP Address: 67.251.116.63

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Helinka Lenkiewicz [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 10:00 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Helinka Lenkiewicz

Binghamton Street Address: http://107LaurelAvenue

Comment: This parking lot is absolutely unnecessary. There must be more practical needs for

this money. A community space seems a nicer solution to bring people together.

Time: 02/27/2015 at 9:59 pm IP Address: 198.255.136.50

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Tracy Wagaman [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 2:54 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Tracy Wagaman

Email: tracy13905@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://191CraryAvenueBinghamotnNY13905

Comment: I do not believe that the proposed plan to replace the courtyard by the Metro Center is the best use of our money. We do need parking, but the cost per space reported does not make sense. We need to update the existing ramps and make public transportation more attractive to present as a modern, thriving city. We paid a lot of money for city planning, let's listen to the findings instead of keeping on this self destructive cycle.

Time: 02/27/2015 at 2:53 pm IP Address: 216.162.18.29

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Earl Walker [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 01, 2015 4:36 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Earl Walker

Email: ewalk13@gmail.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://35ChestnutStreet

Comment: I understand that Ellis Brothers Furniture has been an anchor in downtown Binghamton for generations and would like to see this project go forward, however, as recommended by the traffic board this project will call for the elimination of diagonal parking on Court Street. This is a reckless plan that will REDUCE the net number of parking spaces downtown. This does not benefit Ellis Brothers or the residents of Binghamton. In these times of scarce resources, we cannot afford this prohibitively expensive project when we need the money for so many other vital services. Please consider other, more responsible uses for these funds.

Time: 03/01/2015 at 4:35 pm IP Address: 71.188.232.177

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From:

Matt Webb [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent: To: Saturday, February 28, 2015 3:30 PM
Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Matt Webb

Email: matthewbwebb@icloud.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://580Chenangost.Bingny

Comment: I'd much rather see better use of this space. Maybe move first Friday out of the

street. This is great space for such use

Time: 02/28/2015 at 3:29 pm IP Address: 96.243.82.84

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

From: Sent:

Mary Webster [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sunday, March 01, 2015 9:51 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Mary Webster

Email: mwebster@lightlink.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://12EdwardsStreet

Comment: Please vote "No" on the MetroCenter parking lot. Instead, let's create a public space that will make our downtown beautiful. A public space that fosters music and art and good times and entertainment all year long will make our downtown come alive. And the space in front of the MetroCenter, so centrally located, is perfect for such a space. It can become the symbol of a new and vibrant and forward-thinking downtown Binghamton.

Time: 03/01/2015 at 9:51 am IP Address: 67.252.82.31

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by a verified WordPress.com user.

From:

Kathy Bousquet [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 9:35 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Kathy Bousquet

Email: kbousquet@stny.rr.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://604southstreet

Comment: This is just unfair, we pay enough taxes, for nothing!

Time: 03/04/2015 at 9:34 am IP Address: 74.74.89.30

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Endicoff

From:

Heather Harrington [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Wednesday, March 04, 2015 12:11 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Heather Harrington

Binghamton Street Address: http://6WatsonAve

Comment: I oppose such things.

Time: 03/04/2015 at 12:10 pm IP Address: 67.241.245.39

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Village of Port Dickinson

From:

Joseph Seidel [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Monday, March 02, 2015 3:26 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy, Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Joseph Seidel

Email: <u>Josephpseidel@yahoo.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://3311HanceRd.Binghamton,NY13901

Comment: As a young boy that grew up to join the United States Army and returned home to the city that I love, I can wholeheartedly say I absolutely love and support Mayor David's economic vision for the development of Binghamton.

However, destroying the closest thing this town has to a commons is a horrific idea. I'm not really sure how anyone thinks this is beneficial to the community in any way shape or form. Forget the fact that it's costing around \$500,000 to complete the project and there are already 3 public parking garages all within walking distance that need major repairs, but take into consideration this is the heart of the downtown area and the focal point of our community.

There is nothing inviting about a city that is in dire need of revamping and revitalization that puts its focus on 10 parking spaces in a place that was once considered historic with the "Walk of Fame".

It is so frustrating to see so many good things the mayor is doing for the city be nullified by such an illogical irrational decision.

I truly hope this does not happen. It will only create chaos and take away from the vibrancy the city has been longing for for many decades now. We are so close to turning this city around and creating an inviting downtown atmosphere, please do not ruin it for the citizens that care so deeply about an uprising economy.

Just go park somewhere else and walk to your destination like every other inviting economically developed city in the nation.

~Joseph Seidel

Time: 03/02/2015 at 3:25 pm IP Address: 66.194.51.34

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Town of Binghandon

From:

Robin Eddy-McLain [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Sunday, March 01, 2015 9:53 AM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Robin Eddy-McLain Email: <u>felixxkatt@yahoo.com</u>

Binghamton Street Address: http://1170dellAvenue,Endicott,NY13760

Comment: What would happen to the JulyFest artists alley which is RIGHT WHERE THIS NEW PARKING LOT would go? At best the parking lot would be used for that whole four day stretch, meaning it would be useless to the mayor as a private parking space. How are you supposed to safely turn around in such a TINY space at the end of that courtyard? I have had to back into the metro center courtyard to load and unload before-- it is not a big space, and would not be any bigger full of cars.

HOW CAN YOU JUSTIFY REDUCING THE TOTAL NUMBER OF DOWNTOWN PUBLIC SPACES FOR A DESIGN THAT IS EXPENSIVE, DANGEROUS, AND IMPRACTICAL? It is the worst possible location for such a selfish project! the courtyard hosts a number of small businesses, and is a main pedestrian area in the city!

Time: 03/01/2015 at 9:52 am IP Address: 23.226.94.138

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Village of Endicott

From: Sent: Henry Aery [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sunday, March 01, 2015 10:07 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: Henry Aery

Email: haery1@binghamton.edu

Binghamton Street Address: http://BinghamtonUniversityCampus

Comment: I think this parking lot is a REALLY REALLY bad idea

Time: 03/01/2015 at 10:06 pm IP Address: 149.125.49.230

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

Sent by an unverified visitor to your site.

Lives in Town of Vesta

From:

mark masker [donotreply@wordpress.com]

Sent:

Friday, February 27, 2015 1:44 PM

To:

Pelletier, Jeremy; Bill Berg - external; Kraham, Jared; John Matzo - external; cpapastrat1

@gmail.com; Mihalko, Joseph; Martinez, Tito

Subject:

Say No to David's Dead End - Please Read This Into the Record

Name: mark masker

Email: colortechtatoo@yahoo.com

Binghamton Street Address: http://1139upperfrontstreetbinghamtonny13905

Comment: i can see no reason for this as there are plenty of parking areas downtown already

it would be better if the area was used as a garden rather than a parking lot

Time: 02/27/2015 at 1:44 pm IP Address: 198.255.134.232

Contact Form URL: https://halfmillionbinghamton.wordpress.com/take-action/

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